DYNAMICS OF THE IRON SPINS IN SUPERCONDUCTING $YBa_2(Cu_{1-x}Fe_x)O_7$

I. Mirebeau and M. Hennion Laboratoire Léon Brillouin (CEA-CNRS) CEN-Saclay 91191 Gif-sur-Yvette cedex, France

K. Moorjani
Applied Physics Laboratory
The Johns Hopkins University
Laurel, Maryland 20707

ABSTRACT

The dynamics of the iron spins in $YBa_2(Cu_{1-x}Fe_x)_3O_7$ alloys $(0 \leqslant x \leqslant 0.12)$ has been studied by the means of inelastic neutron scattering. Measurements were performed using the time of flight technique with an excellent resolution of 50 μeV , in a temperature range of 1.8 K to 300 K. The doped samples show an elastic and a quasielastic intensity strongly varying with temperature.

A spin glass like freezing is revealed at low temperature by a sudden decrease of the quasielastic intensity, an increase of the "elastic" or resolution limited intensity and a minimum in the quasielastic width. The freezing temperature ($T_f \sim 18$ K for x=0.06, $T_f \sim 35$ K for x=0.12) corresponds to the one already determinated by a magnetic splitting in Mössbauer experiments. Above T_f , the occurrence of superconductivity slightly modifies the characteristics of the spin relaxation in the paramagnetic state, as shown by measurements in two x=0.06 samples ($T_C \sim 65$ and 78 K). In the whole temperature range of measurement, the dependence of the quasielastic intensity with the scattering vector q, mainly reflects the variation of the Iron form factor, which shows that the spins are almost uncorrelated.